

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 28 are pending in the application. Claims 1-6, 9-12, 18-20 and 28 are rejected. Claims 7, 8, 13-17 and 21-27 are objected to. Claims 7 and 18 are amended. Claims 1-28 remain. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

It is asserted in the Action that Claim 7 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. In response, Applicant has amended Claim 7 which is fully responsive to this rejection. Approval is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 USC 101. In response, Application notes since Claims 1-17 are apparatus claims, they are not claims to a process so the requirements of 35 USC 101 do not apply as the Examiner applied them. However, since claims 18-27 are method claims, Applicant has amended claim 18 to provide a tangible result so that it is in compliance with 35 USC 101 as are its dependent claims 19-28.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1 and 18 under 35 USC 102(b), the examiner contends that Dejaco teaches a formant parameter converter which converts formant parameters from an input narrowband bitstream to formant parameters in an output CELP wideband CELP format. However, the specified portions of Dejaco at col 2, lines 46-49 and fig 5, step 2, and col 2, lines 56-49 do not disclose such an element. That is, while Dejaco discusses converting from input CELP format to output CELP format, there is no mention of a narrowband bitstream, or a wideband CELP format, at the portion specified by the Examiner or elsewhere in the patent. This is an important distinction because, as noted by Applicant in the background section of the specification, at page 3, in the prior art a voice bandwidth converter 204 is needed to convert the sampling frequency of voice so that the voice re-synthesized in the input CELP format decoder 202 fits an output format. Then, the output CELP format encoder 206 again encodes the voice, whose bandwidth was converted in the voice bandwidth converter 204, into an output CELP format. This tandem coding required by the prior art results in voice quality degradation, delay increase and computational complexity due to the many steps required by the encoder and decoder. Further, when transcoding from a narrowband codec format to a wideband codec format, high quality voice cannot be transmitted due to the changes in sampling frequency.

the same limitations. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1 and 18 under 35 USC 102(b) is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 2-6, 9-12, 19-20 and 23-24 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dejaco US 6,260,009 in view of Omari et al. US 6,539,355, these claims all depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1 or Claim 18. Since Dejaco is not a proper reference for the above-noted reasons, and since Omari does not provide the teachings missing from Dejaco, these claims are also allowable over the prior art relied on by the examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 2-6, 9-12, 19-20 and 23-24 under 35 USC 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all outstanding requirements have been addressed, and the claims pending for examination, namely claims 1-28 are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

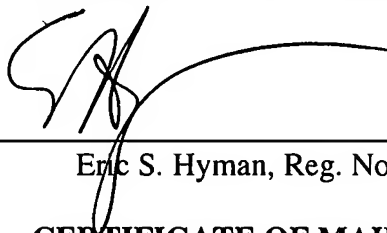
Respectfully submitted,

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Dated:

10/14/07

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October 16, 2007